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1-15-1999

Trustees Approve \$5.8 Million Miriam Hall Renovation Costs, Consider Plans for Residential Facility in Neighborhood

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"Trustees Approve \$5.8 Million Miriam Hall Renovation Costs, Consider Plans for Residential Facility in Neighborhood" (1999).
News Releases. 8695.
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**TRUSTEES APPROVE \$5.8 MILLION MIRIAM HALL RENOVATION COSTS,
CONSIDER PLANS FOR RESIDENTIAL FACILITY IN NEIGHBORHOOD**

DAYTON, Ohio — The University of Dayton's board of trustees today authorized nearly \$5.8 million toward the \$8.9 million renovation of UD's business school, considered a lease or purchase agreement with a developer for the construction of an apartment-style residential facility in the student neighborhood and approved nearly \$1 million to help faculty and students more effectively use information technology in teaching and learning.

The three-phase renovation of Miriam Hall, which began last March, includes the modernization of faculty offices, the creation of team-teaching and seminar classrooms, the addition of two specialized centers — the Crotty Center for Enterprise Leadership and a Center for Portfolio Management and Security Analysis — and the infusion of technological enhancements. The remainder of the renovation costs will be covered by private contributions.

If approved by the executive committee of the board of trustees next month, construction of the 160-bed residential facility on Lawnview Avenue is expected to begin in May and open in fall 2000. The proposed residential facility is part of an estimated \$90 million long-range redevelopment plan for UD's south student neighborhood between now and 2030.

UD broke ground on three duplexes on Kiefaber Street this fall. The connecting of 330 houses in a 25-block area to the campus network through a high-speed fiber-optic link is expected to be completed in July. Other plans for the next five years include construction of a Living and Learning Arts Complex, expansion of Founders Field, creation of a small park called the "Village Green" and replacement of some of the older single-family homes with new single and duplex homes.

The board also approved \$900,000 to support the use of information technology on campus. The money will fund full-time and student positions to help faculty and students learn -
over-

how to use technology; faculty development programming that focuses on innovations in teaching and learning; and development of a state-of-the-art classroom for experimentation in teaching.

In other action, the board:

- recommended that members of the corporation change the University's constitution to allow trustees to appoint a Catholic lay person as president, though preference would still be given to a member of the Society of Mary, the founding religious congregation.
- increased graduate tuition rates by 4 to 6 percent, depending upon the program. About 1 percent of the increase will be used to make a standard package of software available to all graduate students. Starting in August, graduate tuition will increase 3.77 percent in business, from \$424 to \$440 per semester hour; 3.92 percent in engineering and arts and sciences, from \$408 to \$424 per semester hour; 3.87 percent in education from \$155 to \$161 per quarter hour; and 5.92 percent in law from \$18,750 to \$19,860 annually.
- raised next fiscal year's benefits pool 4.9 percent and the salary and wage pool 3 percent, with nearly 1 percent more earmarked to address equity and merit issues. The benefits package now includes a contribution of half of expenses, up to \$2,500, for employees who adopt children.
- reviewed plans to add \$132,000 for 8.5 scholarships for non-revenue sports and to upgrade women's rowing from a club to an intercollegiate sport, as part of UD's gender-equity plan.

Though a historic step for the University of Dayton, the move to go beyond the sponsoring religious congregation to consider candidates for president is not a new direction for the nation's Catholic colleges and universities. Almost half — 102 of 223 institutions — are currently led by presidents who don't belong to the founding religious congregation, according to Ted Witt, information specialist for the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities.

The University of Dayton was founded in 1850 by the Society of Mary — a Roman Catholic congregation known as the Marianists. They include about 1,600 brothers and priests and a companion community of about 400 sisters in 30 countries. Forty-five Marianists serve in various roles on UD's campus. The Marianists operate more than 100 schools, primarily high schools, and two other universities — St. Mary's University in San Antonio and Chaminade University of Honolulu, whose president is a lay woman. UD ranks among the 10 largest Catholic universities in the nation.